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Newsletter - January 1942

Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College

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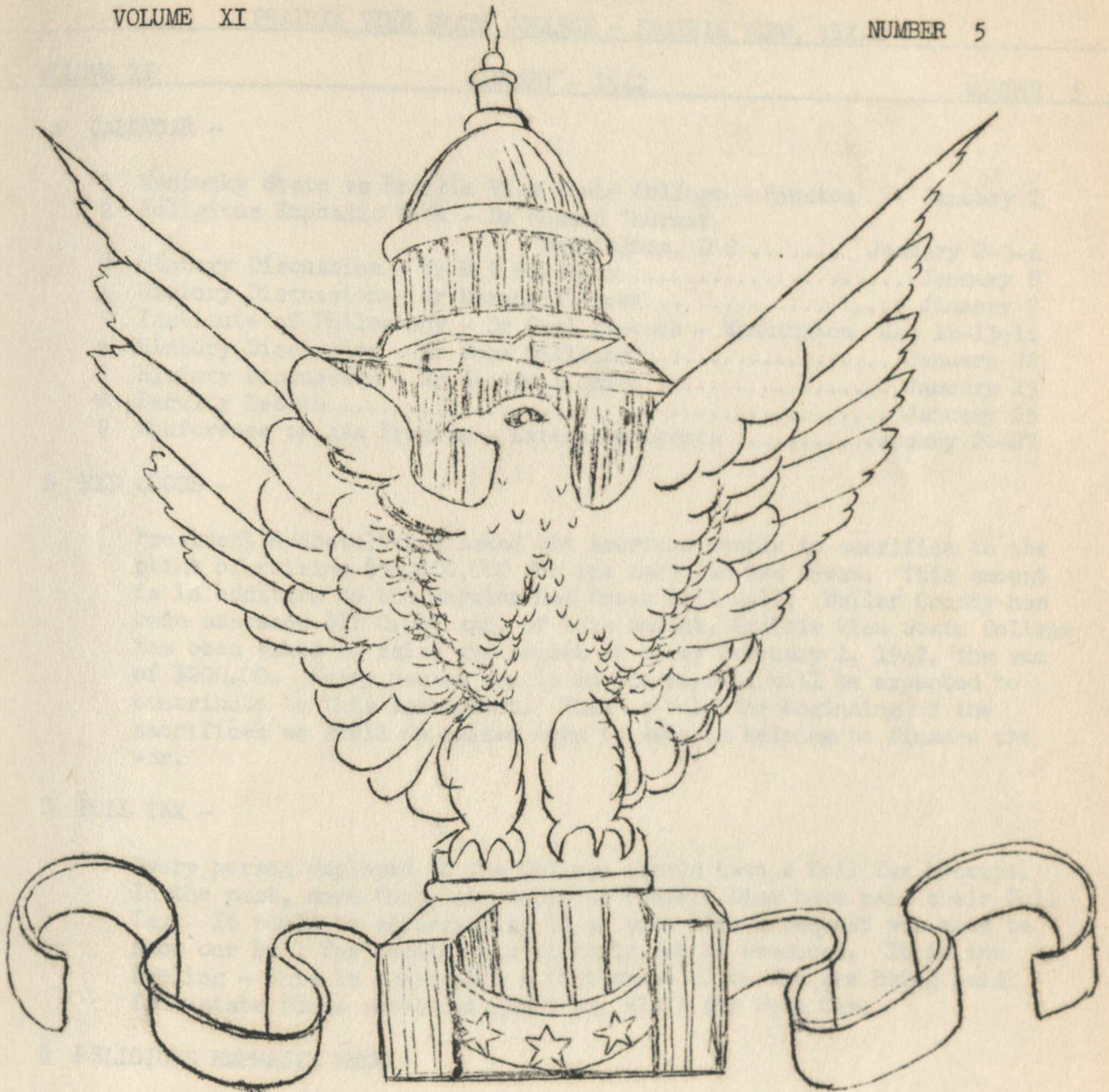
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Mr. O. J. Baker

VOLUME XI

NUMBER 5



JANUARY - 1942

PRAIRIE VIEW STATE COLLEGE
Prairie View, Texas

NEWS LETTER

PRAIRIE VIEW STATE COLLEGE - PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS

VOLUME XI

JANUARY - 1942

NUMBER 5

A CALENDAR -

- 1 Kentucky State vs Prairie View State College - Houston January 1
- 2 Religious Emphasis Week - Dr Howard Thurman
Washington, D C January 2-3-4
- 3 History Discussion - Mr R W Hilliard January 8
- 4 History Discussion - Mr Marshall Brown January 9
- 5 Institute of Philosophy - Dr Carl Taeusch - Washington Jan 12-13-14
- 6 History Discussion - Mr John Williams January 22
- 7 History Discussion - Mr George L Smith January 23
- 8 Faculty Debate January 25
- 9 Conference on AAA Program - Extension Agents January 26-27

B RED CROSS -

President Roosevelt has asked the American people to sacrifice to the point of raising \$50,000,000 for the American Red Cross. This amount is in addition to the regular Red Cross Roll Call. Waller County has been assessed \$1700.00, and, of this amount, Prairie View State College has been asked to raise and report on or by February 1, 1942, the sum of \$200.00. Every person who is on the payroll will be expected to contribute to this assessment. This is only the beginning of the sacrifices we shall be called upon to make in helping to finance the war.

C POLL TAX -

Every person employed at the College should have a Poll Tax Receipt. In the past, more than 140 people at Prairie View have paid their Poll Tax. It would be embarrassing if at some time a request was made to show our Poll Tax Receipt and it could not be produced. It is the feeling - this is reasonable - that those of us who are being paid from state funds should at least pay \$1.75 for Poll Tax.

D RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS WEEK -

The College is happy to announce that DR HOWARD THURMAN of Washington, D C., will be the guest speaker on the occasion of the RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS WEEK, January 2-3-4, 1942. DR THURMAN is one of the most powerful speakers of our times, and, we are fortunate in having him again on our campus. Let us not miss a single one of the Public Meetings.

E INSTITUTE OF PHILOSOPHY -

We are to have our Second Institute of Philosophy, January 12-13-14. We shall have as discussion leaders some of the most able men before the public today, such as -

- 1 Dr Taylor A Prewitt, Jr - FSA - Montgomery, Alabama
- 2 Dr Ira DeA Reid - Atlanta University - Atlanta, Ga
- 3 Dr E A Ross - University of Wisconsin - Madison
- 4 Dr Victor Victor Schoffelmayer - Dallas Morning News - Dallas
- 5 Dr Paul L Vogt - Bureau of Agricultural Economics -
Washington, D C

The members of the Senior Class and Graduate students will be in attendance during the period of the Institute. We want to see as many staff members present as can arrange to come. This is an important meeting. The theme will be: "SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PLANNING."

D FACULTY DEBATE -

No activity at the college evinces greater interest from both the faculty and students than the ANNUAL FACULTY DEBATE. This event will occur on Sunday evening, January 25. The subject will be:

Resolved - That the Federal Government Should Adopt a Policy of Equalizing Educational Opportunities Throughout the Nation by Means of Annual Grants to the Several States for Public, Elementary and Secondary Education.

Team A

- 1 Professor E C Russell
- 2 Mr T S Harrison
- 3 Mrs A P Wilson
- 4 Miss C M Bradley - Librarian

Team B

- 1 Professor G W Morton
- 2 Mr C R Hall
- 3 Mrs M A Sanders
- 4 Miss T L Cunningham, Librarian

Chairman - Dr R P Perry

E COMMUNITY CHEST -

Again, we are calling attention to our COMMUNITY CHEST OBLIGATIONS. It is gratifying to note the number of people who have paid all ready. The following Departments and Divisions have paid 100%:

- 1 Agricultural Division
- 2 Extension Service
- 3 Library
- 4 College Exchange

F NEW SHOP BUILDING -

Within the next few days, a new Metal Shop Building will be erected on the campus, near the Mechanic Arts Building at a cost of \$30,000.00. This building will make it possible for the institution to accommodate more men in Defense Training. Already, we have enrolled more than 250 in fifteen units of instruction. It is the plan that by May there will be an enrollment of 400 men.

G THE GRIM REAPER -

The GRIM REAPER has taken from our midst a greater toll in 1941 than any time in two decades. We have all shared in the common grief occasioned by the passing of friends and loved ones -

- 1 It was in February, 1941, that Mrs Edward, the wife of Professor N B Edward passed. She was a woman of fine qualities; an excellent teacher; a graduate of Prairie View; and, added much to the campus life.
- 2 On April 15, the news of the sudden death of Calvin Hoffman Waller stunned the campus. It seemed at first as if the news could not be true. Professor Waller was connected with the institution upward of 30 years, as a Professor and State Leader of Negro Extension Service for Texas. Mr Waller was a valuable man. He left a host of friends and admirers to mourn his passing.
- 3 Mrs T A Johnson - Mrs Johnson had not been connected with the institution long, but she gave every evidence of being dependable and efficient in her work. She was employed in the Business Office. She passed in May, 1941.
- 4 "Mr Alexander has just passed," the voice of Dr Hill. We could not believe it for he had just left his office apparently in good health. Prairie View lost a valuable and loyal employee. "Alec" as he was generally called by his colleagues and friends had been connected with the institution as a student and teacher for nearly twenty-five years. His place in the confidence of the people and the program of the school will be hard to fill.
- 5 On Monday morning, December 1, The Grim Reaper struck next door to me - my sister-in-law - Mrs Elizabeth Perry-Cannon. Her health made it necessary for her to give up her work at Spelman and Morehouse Colleges, Atlanta, Georgia, where she had taught for twelve (12) years, and, come to Texas to live with her sister, Mrs Banks. We knew for sometime that she would not be with us for long. Finally she slipped off at 6:30 A M., December 1, 1941, without telling either of us good bye. This was our first experience of planning and working and thinking in the stillness of the death of one whom we loved.

From a most humble station in life, she became an authority on Elementary Education and on this subject, her judgment and opinion were respected throughout the nation.

The gorgeous collection of flowers; the flood of telegrams and the many notes of sympathy; and the host of people from every walk of life who attended her funeral in Atlanta, Georgia, gave evidence of the esteem and respect in which she was held.

Next! There will be a Next! God in his providence has ordained that there must be a Next.

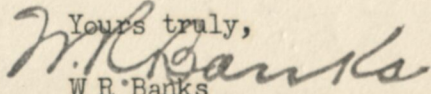
H CONGRATULATIONS -

On December 25, 1941, a daughter was born to Mr and Mrs R W Hilliard, She has been named Hattie Pearl.

I AND FINALLY -

It is befitting that this News Letter be closed with excerpts from a speech made by Major Campbell C Johnson of Washington, D C., in November, before the Association of Presidents of Negro Land-Grant Colleges in Chicago, from the subject - "Implications of Selective Service Facts" to Leaders in the Field of Education.

- 1 "Presumably more of our young men live with women in a common-law relationship than do young white men. This means that there are among them a larger proportion of unstable homes. The effect of such homes upon the lives and characters of children coming out of them is well-known particularly to social workers and educators."
- 2 "Very few Negroes have been deferred as "necessary men" in civilian occupations. The rate of deferment in this class for white registrants is ten times that for Negroes, indicating, we might well assume, the kind of jobs and positions generally held by Negroes throughout the country. Deferment is also granted men engaged in national defense industry. The proportion of Negroes deferred for this reason is even smaller. This fact has significance to educators and to those interested in the integration of Negroes in our occupational life at all levels. It certainly indicates that the Negro occupies far less than his share of the jobs which, by today's measure, are considered necessary."
- 3 "The intelligence tests conducted last Spring showed that less than 1 per cent of the Negro selectees were classified as of superior intelligence against 9 1/2 per cent of the white selectees, while more than 50 per cent of the Negro selectees were classified as of inferior intelligence and only 8 per cent of the white selectees."
- 4 "The fourth grade educational standard established by the Army has resulted in more than 150,000 men being rejected for Military service. The Negro rate of rejection is much higher than the white. In some states it has reached more than 21 percent of all those examined."
- 5 "The question of the control of venereal diseases among young Negro men is of prime importance. In one state out of the first 15,517 Negro registrants examined, 4,577 were found to have syphilis. In another state of 12,134 Negroes examined, 2,732 had this disease."

Yours truly,

W R Banks
Principal

Meeting usual time and place

WRB

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
Scotlandville, La

December 2, 1941

Office of the Dean

President W. R. Banks
Prairie View State College
Hempstead, Texas

My Dear Mr. Banks:

First of all, may I congratulate the conference champions on concluding a successful season. Let me also congratulate the boys for the gentlemanly demeanor while staying in the building in which I am quartered. The only other team that has acted as refined and gentlemanly was the team from Florida A. & M. College. With these two teams, there was a minimum of noise and very little profanity as compared with some other groups that have come to our campus. I am sure that much of this demeanor is the result of the efforts of the coaching and personnel staff of the college as well as the efforts of you and other faculty members. I hope you will let the football men know that the teachers in the building in which they stayed were very much impressed with them.

We were indeed glad to have your band and the large number of Prairie View boosters on our campus. We hope they will feel welcome with us at any time.

Very truly yours,

J Harold Brown
Director - Music Division